

Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention



Child Advocacy Toolkit 2012

Alabama Department of Child Abuse Prevention
"Children's Trust Fund"
P.O. Box 4251
Montgomery, Alabama 36103

Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention

“The Children’s Trust Fund”

Child Advocacy Toolkit

Our Mission

The Department of Child Abuse Prevention (DCAP) secures resources to fund evidence-based community programs committed to the prevention of child maltreatment; we advocate for children and the strengthening of families.



ROBERT J. BENTLEY
Governor

State of Alabama
Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention
"The Children's Trust Fund"

60 Commerce St.
Suite 1000
P.O. Box 4251
Montgomery, Alabama 36104
(334) 262-2951
www.ctf.alabama.gov



Kelley Parris-Barnes, MSM
Director

March 16, 2012

Dear Grantees and Child Advocates:

April is fast approaching and we are all called to focus our attention in a collective manner on the prevention of child abuse and neglect. April is designated as national Child Abuse Prevention month and even our religious institutions are being asked to hold a **Blue Sunday** in recognition of the need to prevent child abuse.

We have been working diligently over the past three years to prevent child death from abusive head trauma and unsafe sleep in the (0-3) age group (which is 100% preventable). The numbers indicate the dramatic effect we have made on saving the lives of children through our prevention efforts; we have experienced significant reductions in **Sudden Unexplained Infant Deaths 45%, Unsafe Sleeping Deaths 65%, and abusive head trauma over 50%**. Even one death of a child that is preventable is too many; we can celebrate the month of April knowing we are saving the lives of Alabama's children.

Funding is limited across the spectrum of federal, state and local dollars, but we did have senate bill 220 sponsored by Senator Gerald Dial move out of committee and we are waiting for it to be placed on the calendar for a vote. As many of you know this is the class action law suit bill that will deposit the remaining funds after all parties are satisfied into the Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention, *"Children's Trust Fund"* to be matched with federal dollars and returned to the community in the form of competitive grants. Please contact your senator and ask for their **support of HB220**.

I look forward to seeing all of you in Montgomery for the CTF rally on **April 11, at 10:00**. Your efforts are not applauded enough throughout the year and this is your day to take credit for all you do for the children and families you serve.

My warmest regards,

Kelley Parris-Barnes, MSM
Director

Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention
"Children's Trust Fund"

Strong Families: The Foundation for Successful Communities

April is a great time to spread the word about Strengthening Families in Alabama. Protective Factors are conditions in families and communities that, when present, increase the health and well-being of children and families. They serve, as buffers, helping parents to find resources, supports, or coping strategies that allow them to parent effectively, even under stress.

Research has shown that the following protective factors are linked to a lower incidence of child abuse and neglect:

- **Nurturing and attachment** – Building a close bond with their children helps parents better understand, respond to and communicate with their children.
- **Knowledge of parenting and of child and youth development** – Parents who know what to look for and how to respond at each age help their children reach their full potential.
- **Parental resilience** – Recognizing the signs of stress and enhancing problem-solving skills can help parents build their capacity to cope.
- **Social connections** – Parents with an extensive network of family, friends and neighbors have better support in times of need.
- **Concrete supports for parents** – Access to housing, financial and other concrete resources and services helps parents meet basic needs and better attend to the needs of their children.

Program Strategies that Build Protective Factors

Most people who work with children and families are already doing things to help build Protective Factors. Field research behind Strengthening Families identified seven key strategies that exemplary programs use in their work to build protective factors with families. The same strategies often help build more than one protective factor. While the strategies themselves are consistent across many different kinds of programs, the way programs implement them are adapted to the culture, concerns, values and traditions of the particular families they serve. People working in community programs, early care and education, child welfare, family support and the many other places can adapt these strategies to support the families and children they encounter

The Seven Program Strategies are:

1. Facilitate Friendships and Mutual Support
2. Strengthen Parenting
3. Respond to Family Crises
4. Link Families to Services and Opportunities
5. Value and Support Parents
6. Facilitate Children's Social and Emotional Development
7. Observe and Respond to Early Warning Signs of Abuse and Neglect

Sample Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release Date:	(DATE)	Phone:	(PHONE Number)
Contact:	(NAME AND TITLE)		(CELL PHONE)
		Email:	(EMAIL ADDRESS)

APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

City, Alabama - April has been designated as Child Abuse Prevention Month for the state of Alabama. This month and throughout the year (ORGANIZATION NAME) encourages all individuals and organization to play a role in making (COMMUNITY NAME) a better place for children and families. By ensuring that parents have the knowledge, skills, resources they need to care for their children, we can help promote children's social and emotional well-being and prevent child maltreatment within families and communities.

Child Abuse and Neglect cost the taxpayers of Alabama more than \$520,000,000 in direct and indirect cost annually. In our area there are (number) of agencies that provide services designed to prevent child abuse and neglect. (Name of Agency) is dedicated to supporting healthy communities, healthy families and healthy children.

"April is a time to celebrate the important role that communities play in protecting children," said (YOUR SPOKESPERSON'S NAME AND TITLE). "Everyone's participation is critical. Focusing on ways to build and promote the protective factors, in every interaction with children and families, is the best thing our community can do to prevent child maltreatment and promote optimal child development."

Child advocates must speak with a collective voice both at home and in Montgomery. Please join us on April 11th, on the steps of the State House at 10:00, in recognition of ***Child Abuse Prevention Month***. This is an opportunity to let your elected officials know that you support children and will be voting accordingly.

END.

Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention

2011-2012 Grantees

ACES of Cullman County	Exchange Club Family Center	Sheffield City Schools
ACES of Elmore County	Exchange Club Family Skills Center	Shelby County Family Resource Center
Aid to Inmate Mothers	Family Guidance Center of Alabama	St. Clair County Day Program, Inc
AL Coalition Against Domestic Violence	Family Links, Inc.	Sylacauga Alliance for Family Enhancement, Inc.
Alabama Parent Education Center	Family Services Center of Calhoun Co.	Talladega Clay Randolph Child Care Corporation
Alabama Partnership for Children	Family Services Center of Coffee Co.	The University of Alabama at Birmingham
Alfred Saliba Family Services Center	Family Services Center, Inc.	Tuscaloosa Family Resource Center, Inc.
Athens Limestone County FRC	Family Success Center of Etowah County, Inc.	Tuscaloosa One Place, A Family Resource Center
Autauga County Family Support Center	FIRST Family Service Center	UCP of Greater Birmingham
Baldwin County Fatherhood Initiative	Franklin County School System	UCP of Greater Montgomery d.b.a. UCP of Mobile
Baldwin County Mental Health Center	Friends of the Court/CASA of Shelby Co.	UCP of Huntsville and Tennessee Valley, Inc.
BAMA Kids, Inc.	Gadsden State Community College	UCP of Mobile, Inc.
Big Brothers Big Sisters of S. Alabama	Gift of Life Foundation	UCP of Northwest Alabama
Big Brothers Big Sisters of W. Alabama	Girls Incorporated of Central Alabama	UCP of West Alabama, Inc. (UCPWA)
Blount County Children's Center, Inc.	Glenwood, Inc.	United Way's Success By 6
Butler County Board of Education	Goodwill Easter Seals of the Gulf Coast	University of Alabama
Calhoun Community College	GRCMA, Inc.	Vineyard Family Services of Central Alabama, Inc.
Camp Fire USA Central Alabama Council	Healthy Kids	Volunteer Center of Morgan County
CARE House, Inc.	Heritage Training and Career Center	Walker County Children's Policy Council, Inc.
CASA Mobile, Inc.	IMPACT Family Counseling	
CASA of Jefferson County	Jasper Area Family Services Center, Inc.	
Catholic Social Services for FSC	Kid One Transport, Inc.	
CAPS of Tuscaloosa, Inc.	Lauderdale County CPC	
Child Care Resource Center, Inc.	Lawrence County Schools	
Child Development Resources	Marshall County Visitation/Family Ctr.	
Childcare Resources	Marshall-Jackson 310 Agency	
The Circle of Care Center for Families	Mobile County Health Department	
City of Decatur Youth Services	Montg. Area Family Violence Program	
Colbert-Lauderdale Attention Home	Montgomery Public Schools	
Community Action Agency of NW Al.	National Children's Advocacy Center	
Coosa Valley Youth Services	Organized Community Action Program	
Dale County Children's Policy Council	Parents And Children Together (PACT)	
East Alabama Mental Health Center	Pathways, Inc.	
East Central Alabama UPC	Pickens County Family Resource Center	
Etowah County Board of Education	Preschool Center for the Sensory Impaired	

CTF RALLY

April 11, 2012

10:00 am

Alabama State House

10:00-10:10

Welcome - Kelley Parris-Barnes, Director
Department of Child Abuse Prevention

Theresa Smiley
National Anthem

John Merrill, Chairman,
Board of Directors of the Alabama
Department of Child Abuse and Neglect
Prevention Board

10:10-10:50

Kelley Parris-Barnes
Introduction of Speakers

- Steve Searcy
- Dallas Teague Snider
- Brandon Falls

10:50-11:00

Closing Remarks - Kelley Parris-Barnes, CTF Director

Alabama State House

Address and Directions

The Alabama State House is located at 11 South Union Street in Montgomery behind the historic State Capitol.



From I-65 South

Travel into Montgomery on I-65 North. Merge onto I-85 North via Exit 171 towards Atlanta. Immediately get in the right hand lane. Take Exit 1 Court Street. Stay straight to travel on Arba Street. You will go through approximately 6 red lights. Turn left on Union Street. Continue straight on Union Street. The State House will be right past Washington Avenue on your right (directly across from the back of State Capitol).

From I-65 North

Travel into Montgomery on I-65 South. Merge onto I-85 North via Exit 171 towards Atlanta. Immediately get in the right hand lane. Take Exit 1 Court Street. Stay straight to travel on Arba Street. You will go through approximately 6 red lights. Turn left on Union Street. Continue straight on Union Street. The State House will be right past Washington Avenue on your right (directly across from the back of State Capitol).

Drivers may drop off passengers in front of the State House and then park at Crampton Bowl. See parking information on next page.

Arrive at least 30 minutes early

Occupants

The State House provides office spaces for the following:

- Alabama State Senate
- Secretary of the Senate and Senate Staff
- Senate Gallery
- Senate Committee Meeting Rooms
- Lt. Governor
- President Pro Tempore of the Senate
- House of Representatives
- Clerk of the House & House Staff
- House Gallery
- House Committee Meeting Rooms
- Speaker of the House
- Legislative Reference Service
- Legislative Fiscal Office
- Legislative Reapportionment Office
- Joint Briefing Room
- Governor's Legislative Office
- State Budget Office

Parking

Parking in the Capitol Complex is extremely limited, particularly during Legislative sessions. There is metered parking on most streets in the complex, operated and controlled by the City of Montgomery. Please note that meters have a two-hour maximum and that re-feeding meters is prohibited by the Montgomery Police Department.

The State of Alabama offers free public parking at Crampton Bowl, three blocks east of the State House at 1022 Madison Avenue, and directly across Madison Avenue in the parking lot of Paterson Field. To get there continue down South Union, pass the State House and turn right on Monroe Street. Go three blocks and you will see the parking lot to Crampton Bowl Stadium.

The State of Alabama offers handicapped parking, in keeping with the American with Disabilities ACT (ADA), on the Washington Avenue side of the State House.

State House Access:

Visitors to the State House should enter through the doors on Union Street. Disabled access is available through the Washington Avenue entrance. For security reasons, all other entrances are locked, and not accessible to the public. Please be aware that during a Legislative Session, all visitors to the State House must pass through metal detectors upon entrance. Security personnel will confiscate and hold all firearms, knives and any other weapons, until the visitor exits the building (Joint Rule 16).

Dining:

While downtown Montgomery offers a variety of dining establishments and there are four state cafeterias within walking distance of the State House.

1. Folsom Grill, located in the Folsom Administrated Building, adjacent to the State House on Union Street.
2. Gordon Persons Building Cafeteria, located behind the State House on Ripley Street.
3. RSA Plaza located across Washington Avenue from the State House.
4. RSA Commerce Center located on Washington Avenue, 2 blocks west of the State House.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT ARE CUT?

Community Providers will discontinue or drastically reduce the provisions of essential services as well as lay off staff.

People can not get the services they need. There are already increased numbers of indicated reports of child abuse and neglect since the economic downturn.

Department of Human Resources Staff, law enforcement and courts are already overburdened.

Local Economies become more depressed as they try to cope with the loss of services, the closing of community services and the lack of resources for consumers and families.

The most vulnerable Alabamians and their families will suffer, dollars will be wasted, and other systems will be strained (DHR, schools, courts, etc.)

General Fund Committees

**House of Representatives
Government Appropriations Committees Members**

Jim Barton, Chair
Steve Clouse, Vice Chair
Richard Laird, Ranking Minority Member

Merika Coleman
Lynn Greer
Ken Johnson
Wes Long
Mike Millican
Elwyn Thomas

Victor Gaston
Laura Hall
John Knight
Mac McCutcheon
Charles Newton
Greg Wren

**Senate Finance and Taxation General Fund
Committee Members**

Arthur Orr, Chair

Billy Beasley
Dick Brewbaker
Bill Holtzclaw
Paul Sandford
Cam Ward
Phil Williams

Roger Bedford
Priscilla Dunn
Trip Pittman
Bobby Singleton
J.T. Waggoner

Senate Bills

SB220

HB558

This bill would provide that all settlements or orders entering judgment in a class action lawsuit filed in Alabama and governed by Alabama law that results in the creation of a common fund for the benefit of a class shall establish a plan for determining the distribution of the residual remaining funds and the timing of such distribution to the Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention

SB89

This bill would create the Alabama Lifespan Respite Resource Network to address issues relating to respite care in Alabama for family caregivers of children or adults with health care needs and to coordinate the Alabama Respite Coalition. This bill would create and provide for the membership of the Alabama Respite Coalition. This bill would authorize the coalition to coordinate statewide respite care efforts and to compete for federal funding. This bill would provide guidelines for the coalition and the network to use in distribution of federal funding.

District Roster of the Alabama State Senate

Officers

Kay Ivey
Del Marsh
D. Patrick Harris

Lieutenant Governor
President Pro-Tempore
Secretary

Gerald	Allen	P.O. Box 71001	Tuscaloosa	35407
Billy	Beasley	P.O. Box 220	Clayton	36016
Scott	Beason	P.O. Box 3112560	Gardendale	35071
Roger	Bedford	P.O. Box 370	Russellville	35653
Slade	Blackwell	2501 20 th Place South	Birmingham	35223
Dick	Brewbaker	P.O. Box 230088	Montgomery	36123
Ben	Brooks	4953 Audubon Dr.	Mobile	36619
Paul	Bussman	1625 Main Avenue, SW	Cullman	35055
Linda	Coleman	926 Chinchona Dr.	Birmingham	35214
Gerald	Dial	P.O. Box 248	Lineville	36266
Priscilla	Dunn	460 Carriage Hills Dr.	Bessemer	35022
Jerry	Fielding	1300-B Talladega Hwy	Sylacauga	35150
Vivian Davis	Figures	2054 Clemente Court	Mobile	36617
Rusty	Glover	P.O. Box 2175	Semmes	36575
Jimmy W.	Holley	4212 County Road 364	Elba	36323
Bill	Holtzclaw	P.O. Box 1801	Madison	35758
Tammy	Irons	219 North Court St	Florence	35630
Marc	Keahey	2350 Allen Road	Grove Hill	36451
Del	Marsh	P.O. Drawer 2365	Anniston	36202
Shadrack	McGill	100 E. Peachtree St	Scottsboro	35768
Arthur	Orr	P.O. Box 305	Decatur	35602
Trip	Pittman	P.O. Box 1812	Daphne	36526
Greg	Reed	800 Hwy 78E	Jasper	35501
Quinton T.	Ross, Jr.	P.O. Box 6183	Montgomery	36106
Hank	Sanders	1 Union Street	Selma	36702
Paul	Sanford	100 St. Clair Avenue	Huntsville	35801
Clay	Scofield	412-A Gunter Ave	Guntersville	35976
Bobby	Singleton	P.O. Box 548	Greensboro	36744
Harri Anne	Smith	P.O. Box 640	Slocomb	36375
Rodger	Smitherman	2029 Second Avenue N.	Birmingham	35203
Bryan	Taylor	P.O. Box 2069	Montgomery	36102
J.T. "Jabo"	Waggoner	P.O. Box 660609	Vestavia Hills	35266
Cam	Ward	201 1 st Street North	Alabaster	35007
Tom	Whatley	337 East Magnolia Dr	Auburn	36830
Phil	Williams	P.O. Box 7024	Rainbow City	35906

House of Representatives

HB34

Under existing law, there is no specific crime designated continuous sexual abuse of another person. This bill would create the crime of continuous sexual abuse of another person when the first act of sexual conduct occurs when the abused person is under the age of 16 and would provide penalties for the crime. Amendment 621 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 111.05 of the Official Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, prohibits a general law whose purpose or effect would be to require a new or increased expenditure of local funds from becoming effective with regard to a local governmental entity without enactment by a 2/3 vote unless: it comes within one of a number of specified exceptions; it is approved by the affected entity; or the Legislature appropriates funds, or provides a local source of revenue, to the entity for the purpose. The purpose or effect of this bill would be to require a new or increased expenditure of local funds within the meaning of the amendment. However, the bill does not require approval of a local governmental entity or enactment by a 2/3 vote to become effective because it comes within one of the specified exceptions contained in the amendment.

HB6

Under existing law, and unless exempted, children between the ages of seven and 17 are required to attend a public school, private school, church school, or be instructed by a competent private tutor. This bill would decrease the mandatory minimum age of children required to attend public school from seven to six years of age. Amendment 621 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 111.05 of the Official Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, prohibits a general law whose purpose or effect would be to require a new or increased expenditure of local funds from becoming effective with regard to a local governmental entity without enactment by a 2/3 vote unless: it comes within one of a number of specified exceptions; it is approved by the affected entity; or the Legislature appropriates funds, or provides a local source of revenue, to the entity for the purpose. The purpose or effect of this bill would be to require a new or increased expenditure of local funds within the meaning of the amendment. However, the bill does not require approval of a local governmental entity or enactment by a 2/3 vote to become effective because it comes within one of the specified exceptions contained in the amendment.

District Roster of the Alabama House of Representatives

Officers

Mike Hubbard Speaker of the House
Victor Gaston Speaker Pro Tempore of the House
William Greg Pappas Clerk of the House

First Name	Last Name	Address	City	Zip
Alan	Baker	P.O. Box 975	Brewton	36426
Mike	Ball	P.O. Box 6302	Huntsville	35824
George	Bandy	1307-A Glenn Circle	Opelika	36801
Jim	Barton	P.O. Box 9918	Mobile	36691
Richard	Baughn	3119 County Rd 1	Lynn	35575
Paul	Beckman	P.O. Box 68055	Prattville	36068
Elaine	Beech	P.O. Box 1256	Chatom	36518
Marcel	Black	P.O. Box 491	Tuscumbia	35674
Daniel	Boman	1555 Chelley St	Sulligent	35586
Alan	Boothe	P.O. Box 561	Troy	36081
Barbara	Boyd	P.O. Box 2132	Anniston	36202
Napoleon	Bracy	238 Montgomery St	Prichard	36202
H. DuWayne	Bridges	P.O. Box 729	Valley	36854
K.L.	Brown	1304 6th Avenue	Jacksonville	36265
Greg	Burdine	11 S. Union Street Room 536-D	Montgomery	36103
James	Buskey	2207 Barretts Lane	Mobile	36617
Mac	Buttram	1718 Ridge Ave	Cullman	35055
Jim	Carns	1713 Pump House Lane	Birmingham	35243
Donnie	Chesteen	P.O. Box 206	Geneva	36340
Steve	Clouse	P.O. Box 818	Ozark	36361
Merika	Coleman	P.O. Box 28888	Birmingham	35228
Terri	Collins	P.O. Box 21	Decatur	35602
David	Colston	P.O. Box 996	Hayneville	36040
Randy	Davis	P.O. Box 1083	Daphne	36526
Paul	DeMarco	P.O. Box 530630	Birmingham	35253
Dickie	Drake	7049 Briarwood Lane	Leeds	35094
Christopher	England	P.O. Box 20843	Tuscaloosa	35402
Allen	Farley	P.O. Box 516	McCalla	35111
Joe	Faust	20531 Beecher Street	Fairhope	36532
Chad	Fincher	P.O. Box 981	Semmes	36575
Craig	Ford	P.O. Box 8208	Gadsden	35902
Berry	Forte	620 Davis Ave	Eufaula	36027
Blaine	Galliher	P.O. Box 4353	Gadsden	35904
Victor	Gaston	1136 Hillcrest Crossing, W.	Mobile	36695
Juandalynn	Givan	P.O. Box 13803	Birmingham	35202
Lynn	Greer	P.O. Box 40	Rogersville	35652
Todd	Greeson	P.O. Box 159	Ider	35981
Dexter	Grimsley	168 Res Drive	Newville	36353

Laura	Hall	P.O. Box 3367	Huntsville	35810
Micky	Hammon	1344 East Upper River Road	Decatur	35603
Alan	Harper	P.O. Box 403	Aliceville	35442
Ed	Henry	1002 Beech Street Cahaba Title, Inc.	Hartselle	35640
Mike	Hill	2020 Highway 33, Unit A	Pelham	35124
Alvin	Holmes	P.O. Box 6064	Montgomery	36106
Ralph	Howard	166 County Road 7	Greensboro	36744
Joe	Hubbard	P.O. Box 11034	Montgomery	36106
Mike	Hubbard	Auburn Network, Inc. P.O. Box 950	Auburn	36831
Steve	Hurst	155 Quail Run Rd.	Munford	36268
Jamie	Ison	57 Byrnes Blvd.	Mobile	36608
Thomas	Jackson	P.O. Box 656	Thomasville	36784
Ken	Johnson	15900 Court St	Moulton	35650
Ronald	Johnson	3770 Sylacauga-Fayetteville Highway	Sylacauga	35151
Wayne	Johnson	131 Delata Pine Dr	Huntsville	35811
Mike	Jones	486 Sutton Rd	Andalusia	36420
Yvonne	Kennedy	1205 Glennon Avenue	Mobile	36603
John	Knight	P.O. Box 6300	Montgomery	36106
Richard	Laird	341 Bonner Drive	Roanoke	36274
Paul	Lee	2319 Eddins Rd	Dothan	36301
Richard	Lindsey	14160 County Road 22	Centre	35960
Wes	Long	P.O. Box 617	Guntersville	35976
Jay	Love	P.O. Box 3221	Montgomery	36109
Barry	Mask	P.O. Box 1450	Wetumpka	36092
Lawrence	McAdory	1000 Barclay Dr.	Bessemer	35022
A.J.	McCampbell	P.O. Box 487	Demopolis	36732
Thad	McClammy	P.O. Box 250776	Montgomery	36125
Jim	McClendon	361 Jones Rd.	Springville	35146
Mary Sue	McClurkin	60 Indian Forest Trail	Indian Springs	35124
Mac	McCutheon	P.O. Box 370	Capshaw	35742
Stephen	McMillan	P.O. Box 337	Bay Minette	36507
Darrio	Melton	P.O. Box 346	Selma	36702
John	Merrill	P.O. Box 2117	Tuscaloosa	35403
Michael	Millican	995 Country Estates Drive	Hamilton	35570
Joseph	Mitchell	465 Dexter Avenue	Mobile	36604
Barry	Moore	502 Windsor Trace	Enterprise	36330
Mary	Moore	1622 36th Avenue, North	Birmingham	35202
Johnny Mack	Morrow	1895 Hwy 28	Red Bay	35582
Charles	Newton	1216 South Conecuh Street	Greenville	36037
Demetrius	Newton	P.O. Box 2525	Birmingham	35202
Becky	Nordgren	101 Cook Street	Gadsden	35904
Jeremy	Oden	P.O. Box 9	Eva	35621
Jim	Patterson	P.O. Box 286	Meridianville	35759
Arthur	Payne	7763 Peppertree Highlands Circle	Trussville	35173
Bill	Poole	1927 7 th Street	Tuscaloosa	35401
Kerry	Rich	1301 N. Carlisle Street	Albertville	35951
Bill	Roberts	1505 Pineview Rd	Jasper	35504
John	Robinson	3479 County Road 33	Scottsboro	35769
Oliver	Robinson	P.O. Box 610343	Birmingham	35261

John	Rogers	1424 18th Street, SW	Birmingham	35211
Howard	Sanderford	P.O. box 16023	Huntsville	35802
Roderick	Scott	P.O. Box 253	Fairfield	35064
David	Sessions	13000 Hugh Fort Road	Grand Bay	36541
Harry	Shiver	46007 Sunset Dr.	Bay Minette	36507
Elwyn	Thomas	124 Cliff Springs Rd.	Oneonta	35121
Patricia Ann	Todd	1320 58th Street South	Birmingham	35222
Allen	Treadaway	P.O. Box 126	Morris	35116
Mark	Tuggle	110 Calhoun Street Suite 108	Alexander City	35010
Lesley	Vance	P.O. Box 1429	Phenix City	36868
Kurt	Wallace	24 Maple Drive	Maplesville	36750
			Tuskegee	
Pebblin	Warren	P.O. Box 1328	Institute	36087
April	Weaver	P.O. Box 1349	Alabaster	35007
Dan	Williams	17686 Clearview Street	Athens	35611
Jack	Williams	3273 Brashford Rd.	Birmingham	35216
Phil	Williams	2185 Old Monrovia Rd.	Huntsville	35806
Randy	Wood	P.O. Box 4432	Anniston	36204
Greg	Wren	4213 Carmichael Rd.	Montgomery	36106

BLUE RIBBON CAMPAIGN



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month! This year we are encouraging all communities across Alabama to “Build a Blue Ribbon Tree”. The Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention (DCAP), the Children’s Trust Fund and Prevent Child Abuse Alabama invite every community to take action for children by “Building a Blue Ribbon Tree”. The blue ribbon is the international sign for child abuse prevention and serves as a constant reminder that all of us have a responsibility to help keep children safe.

DCAP, along with various community organizations, will display pictures of the trees and their sponsor information during Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month at the State House on Wednesday, April 11, 2012 at 10am.

A "Tree Registry" form is provided for people and organizations to register their trees with DCAP where photo entries will be put on the Department’s website. To participate, trees must be completed and registered before April 3, 2012. The registration form is also available to print from the DCAP Web site at www.ctf.alabama.gov

To “Build a Blue Ribbon Tree,” select any materials you choose. If using a living tree, choose a highly visible location and secure needed permission. Creativity is encouraged. Decorate tree with blue ribbons to represent any of the following positive messages:

- The confirmed number of children in your county
- The number of new babies born in your community
- Show your community’s support for children, or something important to your organization, agency, program, or community

Mail or e-mail completed form to Dawn Miller

PO Box 4251

Montgomery, Alabama 36103

or e-mail dawn.miller@ctf.alabama.gov

Phone 334-262-2951

Who should Build a Blue Ribbon Tree?

- Churches
- Schools
- Jr. Civitan Clubs
- Sororities
- Girl Scout Troops
- Boy Scout Troops
- Policemen
- Fraternities
- Military units
- Community Organizations
- Key Clubs
- Art Classes
- Future Farmers of America
- Anyone who wants to give back
- Firemen
- City Councils
- Anyone who cares about Children

Ideas

1. Ask a local nursery to donate a tree if you don't have one in mind to decorate. Have a tree planting ceremony at your church, school or park and decorate the tree with blue ribbons.
2. Have your local art school, art class or art studio paint blue ribbon trees or make yard sculptures.
3. Host a Build a Blue Ribbon Tree Event at your Business or Organization.

TREE REGISTRY

Build a Blue Ribbon Tree in Your Community

*Please complete the information below to register your tree(s) for
Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month.*

Name of Group or Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

County: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____

Number of Blue Ribbon Trees: "Live" _____ or "Your Own Creation" _____

Location of Blue Ribbon Trees: _____

Example: Court House, Main Street, High School, Grade
School, etc.

What Do Your Blue Ribbons Represent: _____

Example: # Children in your County, # of New
Babies in your Community, Blue Ribbons for
support of all children, etc...

Trees must be completed and registered **PRIOR** to April 3rd. **Please e-mail pictures of your completed trees to: dawn.miller@ctf.alabama.gov**. Photos will be displayed at the State House on Wednesday, April 11, 2012 for CTF Rally- Child Abuse Prevention Day at the State House.

Please mail or e-mail completed form to:

Dawn Miller
Department of Child Abuse Prevention
PO Box 4251
Montgomery, Alabama 36103
Phone: 334-262-2951
Website: www.ctf.alabama.gov



BUILD A BLUE RIBBON TREE

For Release: March 1, 2012

SAMPLE PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Dawn Miller
334-262-2951
Dawn.miller@ctf.alabama.gov

“Build a Blue Ribbon Tree” to Help Prevent Child Abuse **Statewide Project Invites Community Participation**

The Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention, *Children’s Trust Fund* invites every community to take action for children by “Building a Blue Ribbon Tree”. The blue ribbon is the international sign for child abuse prevention and serves as a constant reminder that all of us have a responsibility to help keep children safe.

The Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention, *Children’s Trust Fund* along with various community organizations, will display pictures of the trees and their sponsor information during Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month at the State House Wednesday, April 11, 2012 10am.

A "Tree Registry" form is provided for people and organizations to register their trees with the Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention (DCAP) where photo entries will be put on the Department’s website. To participate, trees must be completed and registered before April 3, 2012. The registration form is also available to print from the DCAP Web site at www.ctf.alabama.gov

To “Build a Blue Ribbon Tree,” select any materials you choose. If using a living tree, choose a highly visible location and secure needed permission. Creativity is encouraged. Decorate tree with blue ribbons to represent any of the following:

- The confirmed number of children in your county
- The number of new babies born in your community
- Show your community’s support for children, or something important to your organization, agency, program, or community

Mail or e-mail completed form to Dawn Miller, PO Box 4251 Montgomery, Alabama 36103, Phone 334-262-2951 or e-mail dawn.miller@ctf.alabama.gov

Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation

Whereas, children are vital to our state's future success, prosperity and quality of life as well as being our most vulnerable assets;

Whereas, all children deserve to have the safe, stable, nurturing homes and communities they need to foster their healthy growth and development;

Whereas, child abuse and neglect is a community responsibility affecting both the current and future quality of life of a community;

Whereas, communities that provide parents with the social support, knowledge of parenting and child development and concrete resources they need to cope with stress and nurture their children ensure all children grow to their full potential;

Whereas, effective child abuse prevention strategies succeed because of partnerships created among citizens, human service agencies, schools, faith communities, health care providers, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community;

Therefore, I do hereby proclaim **April** as **Child Abuse Prevention Month** and call upon all citizens, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, elected leaders and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to support families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening the communities in which we live.

Signature

Date



Prevent Child Abuse America is collaborating with its state chapters and national partner organizations to awaken a National Movement for America's Children (The Movement). The Movement is a fast growing grassroots effort working to help ensure that every child has an equal opportunity for healthy growth and development. This Movement is not an effort to pass one specific piece of legislation or promote one program. It is an initiative to unify the field, energize the public on children's issues and hold our country's systems and institutions accountable for putting the needs of America's children ahead of special interests or political ideologies. It is critical to recognize that collaboration and cooperation are central to the success of this effort.

Fundamental to the Movement is the opportunity to drive broad-based support for issues that cross the broad spectrum of children's needs. Therefore, individual children's organizations can and should be lending support to others who share in the basic desire to see all of America's children thrive in the most healthy, nurturing and positive environment possible. Participating organizations should use the movement to advance efforts that clearly fit within the framework of such a coalition and they are encouraged to openly support and help advance like-minded efforts being promoted by other organizations within the Movement.

The Core Action and "The Big Question"

The core action for chapters, partners and movement supporters is to get as many Americans as possible to sign the pledge calling for a national strategy for children and then invite those Americans everywhere to answer what Movement organizers refer to as *The Big Question*:

**HOW CAN WE ENSURE THAT EVERY CHILD HAS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR
HEALTHY GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT?**

FACT SHEET: THRIVING ECONOMY

Americans everywhere, from people in communities to leaders in business and government across the country, are awakening to the role we each can play in ensuring all children have an equal opportunity for growth and development. The economy is one area that more and more Americans are beginning to see as deeply connected to the healthy development of our children. When we fail to provide every child in America with a healthy chance to grow and develop there are many social impacts, but there also are enormous economic costs to our country.

FACTS:

- Child abuse and neglect are preventable, yet each year in the United States, close to one million children are confirmed victims of child maltreatment.
- The emotional and physical effects are detrimental to those involved, and the costs of responding to the impact of child abuse and neglect are borne by the victims and their families, but also by society.

Total Estimated Costs of Failing to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect in the United States:

- **Based on data drawn from a variety of sources, the estimated annual cost of child abuse and neglect is \$124 billion (2008).**

The costs associated with child abuse and neglect have been segmented into two categories:

1. **Direct costs**, that is, those costs associated with the immediate needs of children who are abused or neglected; and
2. **Indirect costs**, that is, those costs associated with the long-term and/or secondary effects of child abuse and neglect.

Direct Costs:

- Hospitalization.....**\$6 billion**
- Mental Health Care System.....**\$1 billion**
- Child Welfare Services System.....**\$24 billion**
- Law Enforcement.....**\$33 million**

Indirect Costs:

- Special Education.....**\$2 billion**
- Juvenile Delinquency.....**\$7 billion**
- Mental Health and Health Care.....**\$67 million**
- Adult Criminal Justice System.....**\$28 billion**
- Lost Productivity to Society.....**\$33 billion**

Although the economic costs associated with child abuse and neglect are substantial, it is essential to recognize that it is impossible to calculate the impact of the pain, suffering, and reduced quality of life that victims of child abuse and neglect experience. But the good news is we now know how we can each help prevent child abuse and neglect from ever occurring. We are advocating for the expansion of innovative programming such as home visiting services, increased funding for the prevention of shaken baby syndrome, child-friendly workplaces and comprehensive flex time programs. We are personally promoting the health and well-being of every child in our community, donating to child advocacy causes, participating in youth-focused community organizations and dedicating time to babysit or support family or friends who are under stress.

We have awakened to the impact we each can have on our children when we take action – even seemingly small action – that can help all of America’s children grow to become healthy, caring and contributing adults.

www.movementforchildren.org

1Wang, CT, & Holton, J (2007). Total estimated cost of child abuse and neglect in the United States. Chicago, IL: Prevent Child Abuse America.
http://www.preventchildabuse.org/about_us/media_releases/pcaa_pew_economic_impact_study_final.pdf

TIPS AND ACTIONS FOR SUPPORTING THE MOVEMENT

The Movement for America’s Children (www.movementforchildren.org) is a grassroots effort led by citizens, community and business leaders, faith-based organizations and advocacy groups, who are calling for a national strategy to prioritize the needs of all children and deliver actions and policies that will help ensure that every child has an equal opportunity for healthy growth and development. People and organizations across the country are declaring their support for our nation’s children by signing the National Pledge and participating in the national discussion to develop a national strategy for America’s children. They are joining a nationwide listening tour and an ongoing, virtual discussion at www.movementforchildren.org.

What should supporters do?

- 1. Sign the pledge:** If you believe our country has an obligation to provide every child in America with an opportunity for healthy growth and development, you should sign the Pledge. Go to www.movementforchildren.org and join the Movement!
- 2. Shape the Strategy:** Through the Movement website you can set up a profile and contribute your thoughts and views in answering The Big Question: *How can we ensure that every child has an equal opportunity for healthy growth and*

development? Go to www.movementforchildren.org and join the discussion to help shape the national strategy!

3. Stand Up for Our Children: Organize your supporters, friends and neighbors to promote the Movement, enlist more supporters and help lead your hometown to be a community that is leading the way in delivering opportunities for the healthy growth and development to all children. You can host a house party or playgroup to talk about the needs of America's children and capture answers – in writing or on video – to The Big Question. The Movement – and America's children – need all the participants we can get! Send your friends and family to www.movementforchildren.org.

Who should be involved?

Anyone who cares about our children, our communities, our economy or even our national security - and that means YOU! Parents, aunts, uncles, neighbors, businesses, religious groups, community organizations – anyone who cares about our country should care about this issue! Our children really are our future and everyone has a role to play in helping raising the children in their community and everyone has a stake in seeing that children have every possible opportunity to be realize their fullest potential! Children who are raised in healthy, nurturing environments can grow up to be contributing citizens, innovators and leaders in a more prosperous America. When we support families and children we support our economy, our communities and we even help protect our national security.

What about Town Halls and Listening Sessions?

There are many different ways to do local events and activities that can be help to support the Movement for America's Children and contribute answers to The Big Question, regardless of the location, venue or type of event you want to hold.

Three basic suggestions include:

1. Formal town hall events/moderated sessions
2. Existing conferences/speaking opportunities; and,
3. Individual advocate efforts.

See “Listening Sessions” below for more ideas on these three examples, but it's important to recognize that any event or public gathering is an opportunity to deliver on The Movement's two most basic near-term goals:

- **Have people “sign” pledges**, either on the website (through a laptop or smartphone) or on printed pledge forms (printed from the toolkit); and,
- **Collect answers to “The Big Question”** from people of all professions and walks of life– maybe on video, maybe in writing – however you can best secure their input.

The purpose of local events and local listening efforts is to assist the public to understand the importance and benefits of healthy child development to our communities and nation, engage a broad segment of the public to encourage policymakers to re-prioritize children in our federal and state policies and budgets and to illustrate to policymakers that this issue is, in fact a public priority that will be sustained by on-going support from individuals throughout the country through the collection of signatures. These events are the foundation for populating a nationwide grassroots movement with people who have expressed an interest in these issues.

The grassroots nature of this effort in and of itself means that “broadcast quality” videos are not the medium of choice or even necessary. The use of amateur videos, captured on smartphones and mini-cams can support and add credibility to the organic, viral nature of how The Movement can inform and influence the future direction of policies and actions for children. Basic quotes, answering “The Big Question” and simple, basic and “crowd-sourced” responses are what is being sought.

Listening Session Examples

There is no mandate for any one approach for a Listening Session. Flexibility and creativity help ensure the potential for this conversation to catch wind and move virally and organically across the public. When possible, a moderated session, with the support or counsel of the national office, is ideal. But there are many other ways to take advantage of existing local events, mobilize supportive individuals to be involved or augment any event with some pledge collection and strategy input. Obvious suggestions include a “kiosk” table set up and/or roaming volunteers to catch amateur video answers capture pledges and to record and catalogue answers to The Big Question:

“How can we ensure every child has an equal opportunity for healthy growth and development?”

When a qualified, knowledgeable moderator is not available for a formal, structured event, there are still ways for chapters, partners and committed individuals to collect pledges and answers – that’s where the flexibility comes in. Though quality in our efforts is obviously important, the real outcome we are seeking is quantity in signatures because our objective is to broaden our reach so when the strategy is launched in November – and then we sustain engagement beyond that – we’ll have an impressive list of people who’ve not only signed something, but they’ve “contributed” to the discussion. This creates a broader “aligned” grassroots base and helps sustain the focus that is needed to prioritize federal and state policies and budgets for children beyond the next election cycle and well into the future.

While it is possible to incorporate the Movement into almost any event, here are three basic categories of events and brief explanations of each:

1. A “Formal” Town Hall/Moderated Session – This event would be co-organized by the PCA America national office and a state chapter or partner organization and hosted in a public place or space donated by a corporate, civic, educational or government sponsor. The event could be held at a YM/YWCA, Boys and Girls Club, City Hall, Library, church or college, high school or junior high school classroom or any venue that is accessible and viewed as a natural location for people to gather to learn and discuss important issues. National Office staff and the chapter staff would co-host the session and share the various “emcee” duties for the discussion. Opening remarks would be provided by the chapter ED and the national office representative, followed by some context around The Movement and then a focus on spending as much time as possible engaging the audience in dialogue around The Big Question. Our collective goal must be to listen and capture the input of people in answering The Big Question. The event would be wrapped up with a request for people to invite others into the conversation on The Movement website, support prevention through their local chapter and engage in the rollout of the national strategy to which they’ve now contributed.

2. Piggybacking on a Speaking Opportunity – This type of event would involve using a speaking opportunity by a national office representative or a chapter or partner representative to drive a discussion about The Big Question and the country’s need for a national strategy for children. The speaking role would be shorter and the “Q&A” session with the audience would be much more prominent, turning the spotlight on the views of attendees regarding what is needed to provide every child equal opportunity to healthy growth and development. It would be very important to have someone capturing amateur video of answers being offered by the audience and following up to capture one-on-one amateur “interviews” with the audience members who want to answer The Big Question. It would also be good to have a “kiosk” table set up with a laptop directed to the Movement website for people to sign the pledge and printed pledge forms for people to sign.

3. Individual Advocate Efforts – This would involve individual enthusiasts or small groups hosting a house party, a play group, barbeque or some other smaller, more intimate gathering where they discuss their views on The Big Question, recruit friends and neighbors to sign the pledge and raise money for the Movement, the national office and /or the local chapter. This can be an activity chapters or partners can offer to supporters looking for a volunteer opportunity and it is something the PCA America national office can encourage a local volunteer to do who has signed up for The Movement. As interested individuals sign up for The Movement, we will be able to identify those interested people in each state, by zip code, and we can enlist them to support smaller

events like this or even help to organize events like #1 or #2 above as Movement volunteers, depending on the interests of the chapter or partner.

These are only three basic categories of events to help demonstrate how The Movement can be brought to life locally. Chapters, partners and individual advocates can do anything they prefer to help sign people up to the pledge, get answers to The Big Question and capture those answers in writing or on video. The goal is to broaden our reach, get people engaged in the dialogue, and “contribute” to the discussion. Chapters and partners can do this in any creative manner they choose. There is no “one way” to execute a listening session, collect pledges or bring the public into the dialogue.

For more information or if you want to talk through these options or brainstorm various ways to drive participation, don’t hesitate to reach out to Prevent Child Abuse Alabama at 334-262-2951.



THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S PLEDGE

The United States has a long history of declaring our belief in the moral and socioeconomic importance of the family and the necessity to raise healthy children. Yet too often our policies, systems and actions are not designed or executed in a manner that measurably and comprehensively supports the healthy development of each and every child, regardless of race, wealth, health, religion or geography.

We, the undersigned, hereby call upon our country (government, business, faith-based organizations, communities, systems and individual citizens) to:

- Commit to helping meet the needs of all children in America in order to provide them an equal opportunity for healthy growth and development, regardless of race, wealth, health, religion or geography.
- We, the undersigned, support the development and implementation of a national strategy for America's children, designed to guide the implementation of policies and actions that will measurably deliver for the development of every child in America.

Signed,

The Time to Awaken is Now



Insert pledge form here